

BIBFRAME 2.0 Specification

Identifiers

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Library of Congress

This is one of a set of specifications for BIBFRAME 2.0.

A BIBFRAME Resource may have several identifiers. An Instance may have, for example, an ISBN; a Work might have an ISTC. There are many of these types of identifiers for BIBFRAME resources: ‘nbn’, ‘system number’, ‘doi’, ‘ismn’, ‘issn’, ‘istc’, ‘lccn’ and more. We refer to an identifier type as its “source”.

Along with the identifier value itself, the identifier source must be conveyed.

Properties **bf:identifiedBy** and Class **bf:Identifier**

Property **bf:identifiedBy** is used to supply an identifier. Its object is class **bf:Identifier**, or a subclass. For the identifier source, there may or may not be a class defined. If there is a class, it might be a BIBFRAME class or an external class. So there are three cases:

- Identifier source indicated by BIBFRAME class.
- Identifier source indicated by external class.
- No class defined for identifier source.

Source Indicated by BIBFRAME Class

If there is a BIBFRAME class for the identifier source, that class is defined to be a subclass of **bf:Identifier**, and it is used to indicate the source. In the following example the identifier is an ISBN whose value is “1455502626”. Class **bf:Isbn** is a subclass of **bf:Identifier**.

Example 1: Identifier source indicated by BIBFRAME class

<pre>bf:identifiedBy [a bf:Isbn rdf:value "9783110413014"] .</pre>

Source Indicated by External Class

If there is no BIBFRAME class but there is an external class for the identifier source, that class may be used to indicate the source.

Example 2: Identifier source indicated by external class

In the following example the identifier has (hypothetical) source “ABC”, defined in (hypothetical) vocabulary <<http://bibframe.example.org/vocabulary/identifiers>> and thus class <<http://bibframe.example.org/vocabulary/identifiers/ABC>> indicates the source.

(Prefix "identifier:" is assumed to be bound to the namespace vocabulary
<http://bibframe.example.org/vocabulary/identifiers>.)

```
bf:identifiedBy [ a          identifier:ABC ;  
                  rdf:value  "MX3-387" ] .
```

No class defined for identifier source

For an identifier source for which there is no class, bf:Identifier is used, and the source is indicated by property bf:source.

Example 3: No class defined for identifier source

```
bf:identifiedBy [ a          bf:Identifier ;  
                  bf:source  "xyz" ;  
                  rdf:value  "1234567890" ] .
```